

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-49 are pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claim 21 has been cancelled, *without prejudice*. In addition, claims 22 and 48 have been amended and support for their amendment can be found, *for example*, in the original claim 22 and paragraph [0146] of the published application. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks reconsideration of claims 22 and 48 is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate that the Office Action indicates that claims 1-20, 23-47 and 49 contain allowable subject matter.

**I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112**

The Office Action rejects claims 22 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In response, Applicants have amended them and believe they are now in condition for allowance.

The Office Action rejects claims 21 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. In response, Applicants have cancelled claim 21 and thus its rejection is no longer applicable.

**II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101**

The Office Action rejects claims 22 and 48 under 35 U.S.C. §101, as failing to fall within one of the four statutory classes of §101. In response, Applicants have amended them and believe they are now in condition for allowance.

**III. Conclusion**

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants submit that claims 22 and 48 define patentable subject matter. Claims 2-20, 24, 26-44, and 47 depend from claims 1, 23, 25, and 46,

respectively, and therefore, also define patentable subject matter, as well as for the additional features recited therein.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 and 22-49 are earnestly solicited.

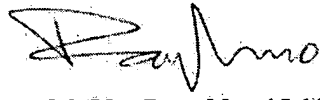
Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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